LITERARY NOTES

Iranian revolution and Faiz's poem *Hum Dekhenge*

By Rauf Parekh

FAIZ Ahmed Faiz's immensely popular poem, usually referred to as *Hum Dekhenge*', (we shall see), is surrounded by a few misunderstandings. Firstly, contrary to common belief, Faiz had not composed this poem as protest against General Ziaul Haq's martial law, albeit he was definitely against the regime and had written the poem during Zia's martial law.

The poem pronounces that the day would come when crowns would be tossed and thrones would be knocked over, which was interpreted as a protest against martial law. But the poem was in fact inspired by Iranian revolution and Faiz had paid tribute to common people who had brought about the revolution. Presenting Iranian revolution as a proof, he expresses his firm belief that we shall one day see the end of exploitative system and the proletariat would snatch power from the feudal lords.

Secondly, the actual title of the poem is not *Hum Dekhenge*, but these are the first words in the opening line. The actual title of the poem, written in 1979, is a part of the verse 27 of Quran's chapter 55 (Surah Rahman). The poem alluding to the Day of the Judgement intends to remind that the day would come when the justice would prevail and those who committed atrocities would be punished. What inspired Faiz to pen this poem was 1979 Iranian revolution when Iranian monarch Mohammed Reza Pahlavi had to flee the country as millions of people took to street in protest.

Dr Sajid Siddiq Nizami, while explaining the poem in an article, has given the backdrop against which this poem was created. He says that Agha Nasir has mentioned that when he visited Faiz in London in 1979, Faiz handed him over two hand-written poems and asked him to distribute these poems among the friends in Pakistan. Faiz said one of the poems is on Iranian revolution, which had occurred a few months ago.

Agha said the Iranian revolution was an Islamic revolution and how could you write a poem on it (since Faiz was a leftist). Faiz replied a revolution is a revolution, not Islamic or un-Islamic. When people take to street it becomes a mass revolution. On another occasion, says Dr Nizami, Faiz had commented that after the French revolution the Iranian evolution was the greatest one as it was brought about by general public.

In addition to revolution in Iran, Faiz must have had in his mind, adds Nizami, the situation in Pakistan where an elected government was toppled and the former prime minister was likely to be hanged. The poem became immensely popular when in 1986 Iqbal Bano sang it in a gathering at Lahore. Ever since the poem is considered the voice of the downtrodden and politically oppressed. So much so, that even in India it was recited to voice protest over the Citizenship Amendment Act of 2019.

The poem was included in *Mere Dil Mere Musafir* (1981), a collection of Faiz's poetry. Iftikhar Arif had the original manuscript of the book, written in hand by Faiz. It was also part of Faiz's collected works *Saare Sukhan Hamaare* (London, 1982), but was not included in *Nuskha Hai Vafaa* (1984), complete poetic works of Faiz. Perhaps it was a precautionary measure taken by the publisher. Later on, it was included in it but a few lines were abrogated. Dr Nizami's article analyses the poem and explains that Faiz has used certain Islamic symbols and Sufi motifs to convey the theme.

Nizami's article is included in an anthology tilted *Ghaazaa-i-Rukhsaar-i-Sahar*. Published by Lahore's Collage Publications and compiled by Ghulam Ali — a Lahore-based young scholar — the book proffers 34 articles by renowned critics from India and Pakistan. Some of the veterans whose article have made it to the anthology include Meera Jee, Syed Sajjad Zaheer, Fateh Muhammad Malik, Ashfaq Husain, Tabassum Kashmiri, Sarvarul Huda, Jabir Ali Syed, Qamar Raees, Ahmed Mehfooz, Aftab Ahmed, Ziaul Hasan, Nasir Abbas Nayyar and some others.

The book is, as mentioned by Nasir Abbas Nayyar in his blurb, a study known as Close Reading, or the in-depth analysis based on linguistic and structural features for deeper understanding.

Faiz died in Lahore on November 20, 1984.

Under-invoicing prompts Chinese yarn firm to open office in Faisalabad

By Amjad Mahmood

LAHORE: A major Chinese cotton yarn exporting firm has reportedly opened its office in Faisalabad's *Sooter Mandi* (yarn market) to facilitate large-scale sales to Pakistani textile mills and traders.

This move comes amidst revelations that certain traders and textile mills have been importing millions of kilograms of cotton yarn monthly from China and other countries by under invoicing.

The situation has exposed a critical imbalance in the country's economic policy: while cotton products imported into Pakistan face lower taxes compared to other countries, the local textile and cotton industry is burdened with the world's most expensive electricity and gas tariffs, along with excessive taxes.

This disparity is plunging the domestic industry into its worst-ever economic crisis, leading to the shutdown of hundreds of textile mills and ginning factories, including large groups. The resulting continuous decline in exports and massive increase in imports is pushing the national economy towards decline.

A recent investigation by the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) uncovered that imported cotton yarn is being declared at prices much lower than the actual cost to evade import duties.

The textile millers' body had previously written to the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), revealing that traders are importing cotton yarn that typically costs between$3.42 and $4.14 per kg by declaring its price as low as$2.25 to $3.80 per kg. A large portion of these imports is being declared at around $2.75 per kg, continuously undermining the domestic spinning industry.

APTMA urged the FBR in its letter to conduct a thorough investigation into this issue to help revive the local cotton industry.

Due to the relatively cheaper price of Chinese cotton yarn compared to domestic produce, imports have surged. The move by a major Chinese cotton yarn exporting firm to open its office directly in Faisalabad's market is being viewed with apprehension, as it is expected to further boost Chinese sales to Pakistani mills.

Cotton Ginners Forum Chairman Ihsanul Haq has called upon the government to take immediate action to support the entire cotton industry, including textile mills, by announcing record reductions in electricity and gas tariffs and lowering taxes. This, he argued, is essential to fully activate the domestic cotton industry, increase exports, and strengthen the national economy.

BEFORE: MR.MUHAMMAD AHSAN KHAN DURRANI (INCHARGE JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT-III, AT KARACHI
Block-50, Pakistan Secretariat, near Passport Office, Saddar, Karachi

Suit No. 218 of 2025

UNITED BANK LTD HAVING ITS OFFICE, AT 8TH FLOOR, STATE LIFE BUILDING NO. 1, I. I. CHUNDRIGAR ROAD P.O. BOX 4889, KARACHI....**Plaintiff**

Versus

MAHESH S/O KISHOR, HINDU, ADULT, R/O PLOT NO. 1753-1754, FLAT NO.A-105, 1ST FLOOR, JINNAH 1, SYED MEHMOOD SHAH ROAD, RANCHORR LINES, KARACHI **AS PER CNIC ADD:** HOUSE NO. 6, ALI MUHAMMAD BUILDING POLICE CHOKI, NABI BUX ROAD, RANCHOR LINE, KARACHI **BUSINESS ADD:** AKHTAR AND HASSAN PVT. LTD., 3RD FLOOR, ANNEXE STATE LIFE BUILDING NO. 1,I.I. CHUNDRIGARH, ROAD, KARACHI .....**Defendants**

To, The above-named Defendants

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001 **RS.267,560.90** UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE, 2001 balance of principle and markup due to you ; you are therefore hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within 30 days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such 30 days to obtain a decree for any sum not exceeding the sum of **RS.267,560.90** and sum of Rs,(Not Yet determined) for costs together with such markup and cost of fund, if any, from the date of institution of the suit as the Court may order.

Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court in the form of written statement shwoing that there is a defence to the suit on merit or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on 20 day of January, 2026 at 09:00 am before the banking Court -III, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 11 of November, 2025.

BY ORDER
READER,
BANKING COURT NO. III KARACHI

BEFORE: MR.MUHAMMAD AHSAN KHAN DURRANI (INCHARGE JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT-III, AT KARACHI
Block-50, Pakistan Secretariat, near Passport Office, Saddar, Karachi

Suit No. 209 of 2025

ASKARI BANK LIMITED HAVING ITS REGISTERED HEAD OFFICE AT RAWALPINDI AND BRANCH OFFICE AT "TARIQ ROAD BRANCH" AT KARACHI .....**Plaintiff**

Versus

AHTISHAM ALI S/O. MEHBOOB ALI MUSLIM, ADULT R/O. HOUSE NO. AR-10, SECTOR 37/F. KHURRAMABAD LANDHI NO.2, KARACHI **CNIC ADDRESS:** HOUSE NO. 03, MUHALLA AREA 3-B LANDHI 3-1/2, BLOCK 7, KARACHI .....**Defendants**

To, The above-named Defendants

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001 **RS.128,124.90 ALONG WITH MARK-UP, COST OF FUND, CHARGES, COSTS TILL THE DATE OF REALIZATION OF THE WHOLE AMOUNT.** UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE, 2001 balance of principle and markup due to you ; you are therefore hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within 30 days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such 30 days to obtain a decree for any sum not exceeding the sum of **RS.128,124.90** and sum of Rs,(Not Yet determined) for costs together with such markup and cost of fund, if any, from the date of institution of the suit as the Court may order.

Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court in the form of written statement shwoing that there is a defence to the suit on merit or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on 14th day of January, 2026 at 09:00 am before the banking Court -III, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 10th of November, 2025.

BY ORDER
READER,
BANKING COURT NO. III KARACHI

BEFORE MR. MUHAMMAD AHSAN KHAN DURRANI (INCHARGE JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT NO. III, AT KARACHI
Block-50- Pakistan Secretariat, near Passport Office Saddar, Karachi

SUIT NO. 210 OF 2025

M/S BANK ALFALAH LIMITED, Having its registered head office at B.A. Building# 01, I.I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi, Through its duly constituted Attorney.....**PLAINTIFF**

VERSUS

IMDAD ULLAH JOGI S/o. **MUHAMMAD RAMZAN JOGI**, Resident of house/plot No. 288, Sher Muhamamd Pallary, Sector-38 A, Scheme 33, Safoora Chowrangi & Sachal Thana, Karachi, Cell No.0311-3493644,

Second address (as per CNIC)

Near Deputy Director Industrial office, Mohalla Neem Ke Charee, Sukkur,

Third address (as per CNIC)

Goth Roshanabad, Post Office Kandhra, Tehsil Rohree, District Sukkur.....**DEFENDANT**

To, The above named Defendant

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001 **RS 213,569.56 UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE** 2001, balance of principle and markup due to you ; you are therefore hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within 30 days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such 30 days to obtain a decree for any sum not exceeding the sum of **RS 213,569.56** and sum of Rs.(Not Yet determined) for costs together with such markup and cost of fund, if any, from the date of institution of the suit as the Court may order.

Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the Court supported by affidavit or declaration showing that there is a defence to the suit on the merits, or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear in the suit .

Matter is fixed on 15th day of January 2026 at 9:00 A.M before the Banking Court-III, Karachi, Given under my hand and seal of the court this 10th Day of NOVEMBER 2025.

BY ORDER
READER
BANKING COURT No. III, KARACHI

BEFORE: MR.MUHAMMAD AHSAN KHAN DURRANI (INCHARGE JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT-III, AT KARACHI
Block-50, Pakistan Secretariat, near Passport Office, Saddar, Karachi

Suit No. 205 of 2025

M/S BANK ALFALAH LIMITED HAVING IT'S REGISTERED HEAD OFFICE AT B.A. BUILDING# 01, I. I. CHUNDRIGAR ROAD, KARACHI, THROUGH IT'S DULY CONSTITUTED ATTORNEY.....**Plaintiff**

Versus

FAISAL S/O. MUHAMMAD ILYAS, FLAT NO.1-A, HOUSE NO. 145/146, GARDEN PALACE, GARDEN WEST, KARACHI, CELL NO.0321-9223347, **SECOND ADDRESS (AS PER BILLS)** FAISAL ENTERPRISES, F8-D2, S.I.T.E., NEAR ATLAS HONDA, KARACHI, **THIRD ADDRESS (AS PER CNIC)** HOUSE NO.1775/525, MUHAJIR CAMP, BALDIA TOWN, KARACHI .....**Defendants**

To, The above-named Defendants

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001 **RS.266,537.94** UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE, 2001 balance of principle and markup due to you ; you are therefore hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within 30 days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such 30 days to obtain a decree for any sum not exceeding the sum of **RS.266,537.94** and sum of Rs,(Not Yet determined) for costs together with such markup and cost of fund, if any, from the date of institution of the suit as the Court may order.

Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court in the form of written statement shwoing that there is a defence to the suit on merit or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on 13 day of January, 2026 at 09:00 am before the banking Court -III, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 10 of November, 2025.

BY ORDER
READER,
BANKING COURT NO. III KARACHI

At the Pakistan Population Summit 2025

"Slowing down population growth and ensuring rapid and higher growth rates to absorb the labour force must be accorded the highest priority."

Dr. Rashid Amjad

DR. LUAY SHABANEH
REPRESENTATIVE, UN POPULATION FUND IN PAKISTAN

DR. RASHID AMJAD
DIRECTOR, LAHORE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

MEHTAB S. KARIM
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

CHANDRA WARSENANTO SUKOTJO
INDONESIA AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN

POPULATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE WIDER REGION

02:20 PM, DEC 1

The fifth session of the Pakistan Population Summit 2025 will examine Pakistan's current economic and population growth rates in the context of its regional neighbors. Dr. Luay Shabaneh, Representative of the United Nations Population Fund in Pakistan, will chair this session and analyze these trends with the aim of drawing lessons from strategies adopted by neighboring countries.
Dr. Rashid Amjad, Director, Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Lahore School of Economics, will deliver the keynote address, guiding the discussion to emphasize the importance of considering regional experiences when developing actionable policies to address population growth.
Dr. Shabaneh will then chair an esteemed panel of Dr. Rashid Amjad; Professor Mehtab S. Karim, Aga Khan University; and Chandra Warsenanto Sukotjo, the Ambassador of Indonesia, to further discuss this topic.

SCAN TO VIEW AGENDA

DawnMedia

THE PAKISTAN Population SUMMIT

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